

Message Text

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SUBJECT: REACTION TO SECRETARY'S SPEECH

SUMMARY: SECRETARY'S SPEECH ON LA WAS WELL-RECEIVED
IN BOTH PRESS AND FOREIGN MINISTRY HERE, DRAWING
PRAISE OFR ITS ATTENTION TO LA, COMMITMENT TO
IMPROVED RELATIONS, AND CLEAR, OPEN PRESENTATION.
END SUMMARY.

1. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S MARCH 1 SPEECH RECEIVED
HEAVY MEDIA COVERAGE HERE (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO
MARCH 2 RAN FULL TEXT), WITH HEADLINES TENDING TO
EMPHASIZE US READINESS TO CONTEMPLATE CHANGE IN
STATUS OF CUBA AND TO REVISE TRADE ACT. PROPOSAL
FOR "NEW EQUILIBRIUM" ALSO WAS HIGHLIGHTED.

2. TWO LEADING NEWSPAPERS, O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO
AND JORNAL DO BRASIL, SUBSEQUENTLY RAN EDITORIALS
REACTING FAVORABLY TO SPEECH. SAID O ESTADO, "THE
SPEECH. . . SHOWS CLEARLY THAT THE US WANTS TO
OVERCOME TO IMPASSE IN WHICH INTER-
AMERICAN RELATIONS FIND THEMSELVES AFTER.8. .
(THE US) TRADE ACT, AND THAT IT INTENDS TO MAIN-
TAIN THE 'NEW DIALOGUE' ... THE SPEECH ALSO SHOWS
THAT IF ON THE ONE HAND IT WAS NECESSARY TO MAKE
THE US SEE, IN ENERGETIC TERMS, THE PRESSING UTILITY
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OF REVIEWING THE TRADE LAW. . . AND TO EXERT JOINT

PRESSURE IN THIS SENSE ON WASHINGTON, ON THE OTHER HAND THE DEFENSE OF (LA) INTERESTS IS BETTER SERVED BY THE PURSUIT OF THE 'NEW DIALOGUE' THAN BY ITS SUSPENSION. THE MOST POSITIVE ASPECT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S SPEECH LIES, WITHOUT DOUBT, IN THE PROMISE OF THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CLAUSES OF THE LAW WHICH ARE CONTRARY TO LA INTERESTS. . . THIS IS THE FIRST TIME, IF WE ARE NOT MISTAKEN, THAT AN AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE DECLARED THAT IN ITS RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA 'THE US DOES NOT WANT EXACT RECIPROCITY'. . . " O ESTADO WENT ON TO NOTE WHAT IT CALLED "ALMOST A MEA CULPA" REGARDING AUTOMATIC SANCTIONS, REFERRED TO SECRETARY'S DESIRE TO OVERCOME CONFLICT OF INTERESTS REGARDING FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AND MENTIONED APPROVINGLY "COMMITMENT" IN SENSE OF PROVIDING AID THROUGH MULTILATERAL CHANNELS. NOTING SECRETARY'S POINTS RE OSCILLATIONS BETWEEN EUPHORIA AND DISILLUSIONMENT AND OPTIONS OPEN TO BOTH US AND LA, O ESTADO CONCLUDED, "LET US HOPE THE COMMITMENTS ASSUMED BY KISSINGER ARE CARRIED OUT AND THE IMPASSE INSTITUTIONALIZED IN INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS IS OVERCOME".

3. IN EDITORIAL HEADED "PLATFORM OF THE DIALOGUE", JORNAL DO BRASIL SAID SECRETARY "REAFFIRMED HIS INTENTION OF VISITING (LA) AND IN THE MEANTIME OF MAINTAINING THE POLICY HE INAUGURATED FOR LA AND WHICH HE DUBBED THE "NEW DIALOGUE". EDITORIAL NOTED HE HAD "REALLY" TAKEN TIME AWAY FROM OTHER PROBLEMS TO OCCUPY HIMSELF "IN DEPTH" WITH LA: "SUCH A DEMONSTRATION OF INTEREST IN FORMULATING A POLICY SUPPORTED BOTH IN HISTORY AND IN CULTURE, FOR THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE US WITH THE HEMISPHERE, SHOULD ENGENDER A NEW STATE OF SPIRIT. THIS, HOWEVER, DEPENDS ON GOOD RELATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, SINCE MR. KISSINGER KNOWS, AND SAYS IN HIS TALK, THAT THE IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE US AND THE LA NATIONS IS WHAT SEPARATES THE MOST INDUSTRIALIZED NATION IN THE WORLD FROM...' THE MOST DEVELOPED PART OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE THIRD WORLD'. . . ANOTHER FACT TO OBSERVE IS THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WITH HIS GREAT WORK CAPACITY AND IMAGINATION, HAS A PERSONALIST TENDENCY WHICH, IN THE CASE OF LA, SOMETIME LEAVES THE HEMISPHERE WITH THE PROMISE OF DIALOGUE BUT WITHOUT INTERLOCUTOR. A GREATER SUM OF EFFECTIVE POWER INVESTED IN THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS COULD PERHAPS MAKE THE

DIALOGUE MORE PERMANENT". EDITORIAL GOES ON TO REVIEW SPEECH'S POINTS REGARDING PANAMA, CUBA, THE TRADE ACT, TREATMENT OF INVESTMENT, AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND CONCLUDES, "IF THE NEW DIALOGUE, ALTHOUGH MARKED BY SHARP DEBATES, MAINTAINS ITSELF ON THE INTENSE AND EXTENSIVE LEVEL OF THE SPEECH OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, IT COULD TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO A NEW RELATIONSHIP."

4. SHORT ARTICLE IN CORREIO BRAZILIENSE ITED FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SPEAKING INFORMALLY AS SAYING SPEECH HAD POSITIVE REPERCUSSION WITHIN GOB: "THE SAME SOURCE DECLARED THAT KISSINGER'S SPEECH REVEALED THE DISPOSITION TO MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE 'ON A HIGH AND REALISTIC LEVEL' WITH THE LA COUNTRIES, AFTER THE IMPACT CAUSED BY THE TRADE LAW". UNDER HEADLINE "FAVORABLE REACTION TO KISSINGER TALK", FOLHA DE SAO PAULO SAID SPEECH'S "LINES OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE US AND LA... WERE WELL RECEIVED IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY". STATING THAT THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL REACTION, THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE ONLY RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED INVOLVED THE "UNALTERABLE RIGIDITY" OF THE US POSITION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF MULTINATIONALS IN THE HEMISPHERE. "IN ANY CASE, THE FIRST EXAMINATION OF THE SPEECH GAVE--FOR THE DIPLOMATS""A FAVORABLE BALANCE, WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE AMERICANS THEMSELVES ARE INTERESTED IN RE-EVALUATING THEIR ATTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE HEMISPHERE, GIVING IT A GREATER IMPORTANCE THAN EXISTED UP TO NOW".

5. COMMENTS WE HAVE HEARD DIRECTLY HAVE BEEN ALONG SIMILAR LINES. A KNOWLEDGEABLE FOREIGN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AFFAIRS JOURNALIST FOUND THE SPEECH A CLEAR AND STRAIGHTFORWARD EXPOSITION OF REASONABLE POSITIONS, AND A WELL-PLACED FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, SAYING SPEECH HAD BEEN WELL-RECEIVED IN MINISTRY, PRAISED ITS "CARDS ON THE TABLE" APPROACH. CRIMMINS

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